Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph number **[0023]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0023] Various genetic tests can be used with the present invention. These include, but are not limited to, tests for breast cancer, Haemophilia, Duchenne's muscular dystrophy, Becker's muscular dystrophy, Adrenoleukodystrophy, Beta thalassemia, Cystic Fibrosis, Fragile X, Familial Adenomatous Polyposis (FAP), Huntington's disease, Hurler syndrome, Neurofibromatosis, Phenylketonuria, Long QT syndrome, Lesch Nyhan syndrome, Spinal Muscular Atrophy, Von Hippel Lindau, hearing impairment (for example, the GJB2 gene) and Tuberous sclerosis.

Please replace paragraph number **[0043]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0043] Referring now to FIG. 1, there is shown a flow diagram illustrating the general operation of a system for delivering confidential medical test results to patients in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. The IGC 10 receives a patient request and obtains any necessary personal information and payment from the patient. At this time, the IGC may also provide counseling to the patient where appropriate and if necessary. The information generation center generates a PIN 12, which is preferably a randomly generated and unique identifier. The PIN may include numbers, alphabetical characters and/or other symbols, so long as the PIN does not provide information regarding the patient's identity. The PIN may include one or more separate character strings, such as a password and a user ID, where appropriate. The PIN may be provided in bar code where appropriate and desirable, for example, on a sample container. The PIN and payment are transmitted 13 to an appropriate testing facility. The testing facility merely receives the payment and PIN 14. The testing facility may, where necessary, communicate with the IGC to clarify or acknowledge receipt of payment and the corresponding PIN. It is understood that the IGC will not divulge any information that could lead to the identification of a patient by the testing facility. Subsequently, a biological sample is transmitted to the testing facility 9, which performs the ordered tests 15 and associates the results with the PIN 16. Following the association between the PIN and the results, the patient is provided a method of accessing the results, which can be accessed with the proper PIN 17. If desired, the patient may then instruct the testing facility to delete a portion or all of the recorded results 18. The patient may optionally delete a portion or all of the posted results at a later date.

Please replace paragraph number **[0044]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0044] Referring now to FIG. 2, there is shown a flow diagram illustrating the general operation of the IGC 10. A patient desiring to have a test performed, but wishing to maintain their anonymity, contacts an IGC 10. The IGC will take that personal information 11 necessary to determine or identify the appropriate tests to be conducted. The IGC may store the personal information, the nature of the tests to be administered and the payment 21. The patient and IGC then determine the appropriate tests to be performed 22. Alternatively, the IGC may delete the patient's personal information and/or PIN after a specified period of time, after completion of a particular event (e.g., completion of the testing), or other predetermined period of time.

Please replace paragraph number **[0046]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0046] Referring now to FIG. 3, there is shown a flow diagram illustrating the general operation of the testing facility according to a particular embodiment of the invention. The testing facility receives a sample with a PIN and payment for testing 14. The PIN transmitted by the IGC indicates the tests to be performed on the sample. The testing facility then performs the requested tests 15. The tests performed by the testing facility may be any test, for example, the patient may be tested for mutations in breast cancer genes, colon cancer (FAP) genes, and HIV infection. Once the tests are performed 15, the test results are associated with or connected to a file or database identified by the patient's PIN 16. Since the invention relates to diseases or predispositions generally having serious ramifications for the patient, one particular embodiment includes identifying positive results 34 (*i.e.*, those results that indicate the presence of a disease state in the patient, indicate a predisposition to a disease state, or the presence of a heritable trait that may be passed to the patient's offspring) and selecting appropriate information 36 to be provided to the patient. The information should correlate with the nature of the test performed, which can effect the information that is appropriate to the results. Furthermore, where desirable and appropriate, a determination may be made as to whether or not to provide counseling to the patient 37. Such counseling may be in addition to any pre-test counseling provided by the IGC. The test results are then provided to the patient 17 or 17′, the patient can then be directed to a form of counseling 38.

Please replace paragraph number **[0050]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0050] The test results may be screened for those results that are positive for a disease or predisposition of a disease 34. The positive results may then be correlated with the test performed and/or the malady represented by the test and appropriate information correlated with the tests/malady 36. Optionally, a determination may be made regarding the necessity or desirability of providing counseling to the patient 37. A determination that counseling should be provided can trigger the system to provide the appropriate information. For example, the patient may be provided a form of counseling, wherein information is relayed over the phone, either by an automated voice or by a counselor 38 that is provided via telephone to the patient. The patient then receives the test results and information 17. If the patient tests negative for a human malady or predisposition for a malady, the patient may be provided the test results directly 17′.